

Overview

By Mary Erickson, Ph.D.

Going Green is a three-lesson unit plan designed for use with *Green Revolution*, an exhibition at the Gallery at Tempe Center for the Arts. This exhibition is a version of Green Revolution based on an exhibition originally created by the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry and its Black Creativity Council and is made available by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. The Tempe exhibition is a collaborative project that combines the arts and sciences while teaching community members about “going green” in Arizona.

Green Revolution Exhibition Preview PowerPoint

Themes

- Theme in Life: We all make decisions based on deeply-held values. For example, many people value “green” practices to help preserve the earth’s natural environment.
- Theme in Art: Across cultures and times, artists and others have made artworks and other special objects that express or declare their values.

Key Questions

Lessons approach these themes through two key questions.



1. What materials can be used to construct fabric or decorate with fibers?



2. How do artists use cool colors symbolically?

Community Connections

Most communities in the Valley of the Sun are increasingly committed to developing policies and practices to conserve resources and protect the natural environment. Some cities have set aside nature preserves. Most encourage and facilitate recycling. Several cities are cooperating to extend the light rail to serve more communities. High-Occupancy-Vehicle (HOV) lanes reward people who carpool. The federal government and regional electrical companies have given financial incentives to homeowners and businesses to exploit Arizona’s abundant sunlight to generate electricity. Some people grow their own vegetables and buy food products produced locally to reduce shipping distances. Desert dwellers have a history of concern for conserving and using water wisely, which is expanding to a global concern for preserving the natural resources of the whole planet.

Lessons

[Pre Visit Lesson: The Web of Life \(pdf\)](#)

[TCA Visit: Exploring Transformations at the Tempe Center for the Arts \(pdf\)](#)

[Post Visit Lesson: Eco Flags \(pdf\)](#)

Resources

The Web of Life PowerPoint

“Questor Questions about Transformation: New Meaning from Old Materials”

Symbols in Cloth and Color PowerPoint

Eco Flags PowerPoint

Supplies

Paper and pencils

Markers

Scissors

Recycled cotton cloth (large pieces and 2” torn strips)

Fabric markers

Tapestry needles and embroidery floss

Credits

Laurie Lunquist

Dan Dallins

Sherrie Zeitlin

Architekton

Bill Timmerma

Jerry and Mary Ann DeBusk

Grace Erickson

Kris Swisher

Linda Crain

Rhoda Imhoff

Lena Hubin

Estimated Time

Previsit Lesson = 30-50 minutes

TCA Visit Lesson = Field Trip

Post Visit Lesson = 180-270 minutes